

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-36 are pending. Claims 1-36 stand rejected.

Claims 1, 4, 6, 9, 12, 14, 17, and 20 have been amended. Claims 23 - 36 have been cancelled. Support for the amendments is found in the specification, the drawings, and in the claims as originally filed. Applicants submit that the amendments do not add new matter.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner has rejected claims 4, 6, 12, 14, 18, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The Examiner has stated that

In claims 4, 12, and 18, “the networking server” lacks antecedent basis. In claims 6, 14, and 20, the meaning of the selection of a network is unclear. It seems that the AAL2 network is one of the recited networks, not that a network is selected as a part of the method being performed.

(p. 2, Office Action 032205)

Claims 4, 6, 12, 14, 18, and 20 have been amended to more distinctly claim the invention.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,519,261 of Brueckheimer et al. (“Brueckheimer”).

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-36 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Brueckheimer. The Examiner has stated that

Brueckheimer discloses an interface arrangement providing interworking between IP, TDM, and ATM networks. Specifically, regarding claims 1, 7, 9, and 15, Brueckheimer teaches a first voice packet network having a voice data of a first format (ATM network), a second voice packet network having a voice data of a second format (IP network), and an interworking unit (the interworking arrangement shown as enclosed by the box in Fig. 1) See col. 5, lines 9-18. The edge gateways are not shown nor described, but are inherent since they are required to have the set up as shown in Fig. 1. Brueckheimer fails to specifically teach the actual step of setting up the connections. However, the connections are shown in Fig. 1 as double-headed arrows between the ATM network and the interworking unit, and also between the IP network and the interworking unit. It would

have been obvious (almost inherent) for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to set up the connections illustrated in the figure to have active communication between the two networks via the interworking unit.

(p. 2-3, Office Action 032205) Brueckheimer discloses that

Referring first to FIG. 1, this depicts in schematic or generic form an arrangement or interworking function for adaptation of communications traffic into selected ATM formats. The arrangement, which is shown by way of example, accommodates both TDM based traffic and IP based traffic and is thus capable of providing an interface between three types of network. As shown in the figure, the interworking arrangement 10 comprises an ATM adaptation processor, generally depicted as 11, a TDM framing circuit 13, an IP packet framing circuit 15 and a codec 17. The adaptation processor 11, incorporates and is partitioned into a common part sublayer (CPS) device 111, a voice service specific convergence sublayer device (SSCS-V) 113, and an optional data service specific convergence sublayer device (SSCS-D) 115. The common part sublayer device, which may comprise a single circuit or a number of similar circuits, is common to all applications within its specified capacity, but the relative numbers of voice service specific convergence sublayer devices and data service specific convergence sublayer devices required will be determined by the user's service needs and the type of service adaptation equipment to be produced from e.g. interworking/trunking/switching equipment.

(Brueckheimer, Col. 5 lines 9-32) Brueckheimer also discloses that

Otherwise, traffic is passed via the codec 17 for further voice/data processing as necessary. In the figure, the reference numerals 1, 23 and 4 denote paths for traffic types and typical adaptation layers as detailed in Table 1 below.

TABLE 1

Path Traffic

- 1 AAL1 UDT/SDT-CES
- 2 AAL2 SCA 16 kbit/s with embedded signalling + AAL1 SCA
for clear channels
- 3 AAL2 SCA sub rate voice + AAL2/5 signalling
- 4 AAL5 VTOD G.711
- A Modem route-G.723.1 transcoded to G.711
- B Frame Relay Route
- C AAL5 route to SSCS-D

(Brueckheimer, Col. 5 lines 48-64)

Applicants respectfully submit, however, that amended claim 1 is not obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103 in view of Brueckheimer. Amended claim 1 includes the following limitations.

A method comprising:

setting a first connection between an edge gateway of a first voice packet network, having voice data of a first format, and an interworking unit; and
setting a second connection between an edge gateway of a second voice packet network, having voice data of a second format, and the interworking unit, wherein the interworking unit provides a conversion function controlled by one of a call agent of the first voice packet network or a call agent of the second voice packet network.

(Amended claim 1) (emphasis added).


Applicants respectfully submit that Brueckheimer does not render the claimed invention obvious. Brueckheimer does not teach or disclose an interworking unit providing a conversion factor that is controlled by a call agent of either a first or second voice packet network.

Given that claims 9 and 17 include such a limitation and given that claims 2 – 8, claims 10 – 16, and claims 18 -22 depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 1, 9, and 17, respectively, applicants respectfully submit that claims 2 – 22 are likewise not rendered obvious by Brueckheimer.

It is respectfully submitted that in view of the amendments and arguments set forth herein, the applicable rejections and objections have been overcome. If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any fee deficiency that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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